Application No.: 09/980,604 Attorney Docket No. 09812.0439

## **REMARKS**

In the Office Action mailed March 3, 2009, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-13, 15-19, 21-23, 26-30, 32, 33, 126, and 127 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention.

By this amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 3, 6, 9-11, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 26-28, 30, 32, and 33, and cancel claims 12 and 29 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-11, 13, 15-19, 21-23, 26-28, 30, 32, 33, 126, and 127 are now pending.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-13, 15-19, 21-23, 26-30, 32, 33, 126, and 127 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Because claims 12 and 29 are cancelled, the rejection of these claims is moot.

Applicants amend the claims for additional clarity. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-11, 13, 15-19, 21-23, 26-28, 30, 32, 33, 126, and 127 particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention as required by 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and are therefore allowable. Moreover, to expedite prosecution, Applicants amend independent claims 1 and 19 to incorporate the subject matter from dependent claims 12 and 29, as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

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Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 9, 2009

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